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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q62106

Shotaro YAMAGUCHI

Appln. No.: 09/727,769

Group Art Unit: 1652

Confirmation No.: 5479

Examiner: Manjunath N. Rao

Filed: December 4, 2000

For: NOVEL PROTEIN-DEAMIDATING ENZYME, MICROORGANISM PRODUCING THE SAME, GENE ENCODING THE SAME, PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREFOR, AND USE THEREOF

**PETITION TO ACCEPT AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED
CLAIM UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 120**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Sir:

This petition is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3) to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120 for the benefit of prior-filed Application No. 09/324,910 (now USP 6,251,651).

Application No. 09/324,910 was filed on June 3, 1999 and issued into USP 6,251,651 on June 26, 2001. The present application was filed on December 4, 2000. Therefore, Application No. 09/324,910 and the present application were co-pending.

The entire delay between the date the claim was due (April 4, 2001) under paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of § 1.78 and the date the claim is being filed was unintentional.

Submitted herewith is an amendment containing the reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and paragraph (a)(2) of § 1.78.

Please charge the surcharge of \$1,280.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(t) to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

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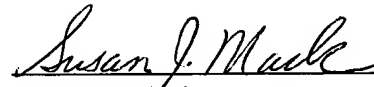
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PETITION TO ACCEPT AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED
CLAIM UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 120
U.S. Serial No. 09/727,769

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 7, 2002